

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates. The cable ownership

cap is a crucial element of our democratic media, and it should not be weakened.

The FCC is not living up to its duty to protect the interests of ordinary citizens. I should not have to remind Chairperson Powell and his associates that corporations are not citizens and, thus, do not have interests or rights that trump the interests and rights of ordinary Americans. Because of its willingness to bow down to corporate interests, the FCC is coming dangerously close to failing its mission to protect the public interest. More media mergers and simultaneous ownership of multiple media outlets in single markets have created and will continue to create monopolies that the federal government will eventually have to disband--at great cost to consumers and taxpayers alike.

It is time to stand up for public interests and reject any attempt that would rob ordinary Americans of their right to a diversity of media ownership.